Appl. No. 09/211,691 Amdt. dated October 26, 2004 Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure Examining Group

## **The Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

- 1-36. (Cancelled)
- 37. (Previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid that encodes a fusion polypeptide, wherein the fusion polypeptide comprises:
- a) an  $\alpha$ -2,3-sialyltransferase that catalyzes the transfer of a sialic acid, from CMP-Neu5Ac, to an acceptor molecule; and
- b) a CMP-Neu5Ac synthetase that catalyzes the formation of CMP-Neu5Ac from Neu5Ac and CTP.
- 38. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 37, wherein the  $\alpha$ -2,3-sialyltransferase and the CMP-Neu5Ac synthetase are joined by a peptide linker.
- 39. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 37, wherein the nucleic acid further comprises a polynucleotide that encodes a signal sequence which is linked to the fusion polypeptide
- 40. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 37, wherein the nucleic acid further comprises a polynucleotide that encodes a molecular tag which is linked to the fusion polypeptide.
- 41. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 37, wherein the  $\alpha$ -2,3-sialyltransferase is a bacterial enzyme.
- 42. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 41, wherein the  $\alpha$ -2,3-sialyltransferase is a *Neisseria* enzyme.

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- 43. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 37, wherein the CMP-Neu5Ac synthetase is a *Neisseria* enzyme.
- 44. (Previously presented) An expression vector which comprises the nucleic acid of claim 37.
- 45. (Previously presented) A host cell which comprises the expression vector of claim 45.
- 46. (Previously presented) A method of producing a fusion polypeptide, the method comprising:
- a) introducing into a host cell the expression vector of claim 45, under conditions where the host cell is transformed with the expression vector; and
- b) culturing the transformed host cell under conditions where the fusion polypeptide is expressed in the transformed host cell.
- 47. (Previously presented) The method of claim 47 further comprising a step of purifying the expressed fusion polypeptide.
- 48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 47 further comprising a step of permeabilizing the host cell expressing the fusion polypeptide.